

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Claims 20, 22 and 23 have been amended. Claim Claims 6-9 and 20-29 remain pending, with claims 6-9, 28 and 29 being withdrawn from consideration.

A Replacement Sheet of Fig. 1 is attached. Applicant notes that the formal drawings filed on November 17, 2003 inadvertently excluded item 52. Item 52 was shown in Fig. 1 as originally filed. Thus, item 52 has been added in the Replacement Sheet.

Claim 23 is objected to due to an informality therein. That informality has been corrected above.

Claims 20-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S. C. 112, second paragraph. The claims have been carefully reviewed and revised, bearing in mind the Examiner's rejection. It is submitted that all pending claims are in full compliance with Section 112. Therefore, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Tanasawa et al. Claim 20 has been amended to define the invention more clearly and thus, obviate the rejection. In particular, claim 20, as amended, recites a body passage surrounds substantially the entire needle. This is shown clearly in Fig. 1. In addition, the body passage transfers heat from the body directly to the needle. In Tanasawa et al. the passage 7 surrounds only a cone 5 of the needle 6, and not substantially the entire needle 6. Furthermore, claim 20 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 21. Thus, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 20 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Horsting. As noted above, claim 20 has been amended to include the subject matter of claim 21. Thus, this rejection is moot.

Claims 21-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanasawa et al. Claim 20, as amended, include the subject matter of claim 21. As noted above, claim 20 has been amended to recite that body passage surrounds substantially the entire needle which is not taught by Tanasawa. Furthermore, claim 20 recites that fuel in the body passage transfers heat from the body directly to the needle to stabilize temperature of at least a portion of

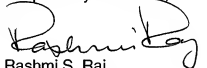
the fuel injector and to maintain an operative relationship between the body and the needle. This is not possible in Tanasawa since wall 2 is adjacent to a substantial portion of the needle 6 and heat would be transferred from the wall 2 to the needle 6. Thus, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 22 has been placed in independent format including the features of claim 20. In particular, claim 22 as amended includes the feature that the body passage surrounds substantially the entire needle which is not taught by Tanasawa. Thus, claim 22 is considered to be allowable over the prior art of record.

With regard to claims 24-27, the Examiner has failed to show where Tanasawa teaches or suggests "at least one cut-out comprises a plurality of volumes, and each of the plurality of volumes is defined by a respective wall". Thus the rejection of these claims is improper and should be withdrawn.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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